Serial No. 10/717,936 Amdt. dated August 16, 2006 Reply to Office Action of May 16, 2006

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An improved water supply assembly for a washing machine is provided which prevents breakage of a water supply hose due to freezing. The water supply assembly includes a detergent box assembly provided in a cabinet so as to communicate with a tub of the washing machine, and a water supply valve assembly connected to the detergent box assembly by a hose so as to control a flow of water into the washing machine. By positioning the water supply valve assembly higher than the detergent box, the hose extending therebetween is oriented at a downward slant, thus causing any excess water remaining in the hose after the flow of water into the washing machine has been cut off to naturally drain into the detergent box assembly.